

LogistiCare®

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TO: SC Public Service Commission
Docketing Department
101 Executive Center Drive
Columbia, SC 29210
Docket No. 2007-445-A

FROM: Robert Harrison
DATE: January 31, 2008
RE: Support for the ORS-requested addition to current regulation
R 103-133 (7) PC&N regarding stretcher vans

Posted: lod
Dept: S.A. - ORS
Date: 1/31/08
Time: 1:00

SC PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

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The Department of Health and Human Services contracts with LogistiCare to manage Medicaid non-emergency transportation for Medicaid beneficiaries living in Regions 3, 4, 5 and 6.

LogistiCare supports the Office of Regulatory Services request to the Public Service Commission to enable the ORS to inspect, approve and permit a stretcher van vehicle.

Non-emergency Medicaid transport is available to a Medicaid beneficiary who does not require medical care or monitoring during transport. The beneficiary is transported in an ORS approved non-emergency transportation vehicle. The ORS currently inspects and approves two types of non-emergency transportation vehicles: a vehicle for the transport of an ambulatory patient (*i.e., a patient who can walk*), and a lift-equipped vehicle for a wheelchair-bound patient.

The ORS request would enable it to inspect, approve and permit a third type of non-emergency transport vehicle: a stretcher van.

Last week we arranged non-emergency transport for roughly 40 stretcher-bound Medicaid beneficiaries each day. All were transported in ambulances although none required medical care or oversight during transport, and none needed to be attached to the medical monitoring devices on the ambulance. In short, none actually required an ambulance for their transport – a stretcher van would have met their transportation needs. If they had been ambulatory or wheelchair beneficiaries they would have been transported in a non-emergency vehicle that the ORS had previously inspected, approved and permitted by the ORS. We feel the ORS should have the same authority and responsibility for non-emergency stretcher van vehicles.

In closing, it should be noted that the ORS-requested regulatory language specifically precludes a non-emergency stretcher van from competing against an emergency ambulance. Finally, an ambulance will continue as the only vehicle approved for transport of a Medicaid beneficiary who does have need for medical care during transport.

If there are questions or if I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. I appreciate your consideration of our support for the ORS request.

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File: 01-31-08 letter of support for ORS stretcher van DOCKETING DEPT.